

TO: Superintendents and Test Coordinators

FROM: Gary Skoglund, Office of Curriculum, Technology and Assessment

DATE: August 10, 2005

SUBJECT: Dakota STEP Post-Test Workshops, Pre-Writing Test Workshop and Field Tests Workshop

**THE WRITING ASSESSMENT WILL BE ADMINISTERED October 3- 7, 2005**

**Dakota STEP test window April 3-21, 2006**

**SPRING 2005 STATE NRT RESULTS ENCLOSED**

Enclosed with this mailing are the South Dakota Group Skills Analysis reports for Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11 from the spring 2005 testing period. The state averages are the fourth column from the left, labeled **NATL INDIV PR-S**. You can compare how well your school did to the state average using the same column from your group skills analysis and comparing it to the South Dakota Group Skills Analysis.

**Dakota STEP Post-Test, Writing and Field Test Pre-test Workshops**

Interpretative workshops for the Dakota STEP will be held **September 19-23, 2005** across the state. The interpretive workshops will include an update on the results of the 2005 state testing program and technical information. Gary Skoglund, Office of Curriculum, Technology and Assessment will conduct the interpretive workshop. On the same September dates the Writing Assessment and Math/Dakota ELP Field Test workshops will be held. Additional information will be provided on Students with Disabilities, Limited English Proficient students and future NAEP activities. Workshops begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 12:30 p.m. Please read the enclosed information for further detail.

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**STANFORD WRITING AND DAKOTA STEP INTERPRETATION AGENDA**

**(FOR EACH SITE)**

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	<b>SIGN IN</b> , Coffee and rolls courtesy of Harcourt Assessment.
8:30 – 8:40 a.m.	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> Gary Skoglund—SDDOE
8:40 – 9:45 a.m.	<b>Writing--Packing and Shipping, Spectrum System Writing Tab TCH</b> JR Zengler—Harcourt
9:45 – 10:30 a.m.	<b>Special Education Update</b> <b>LEP Update</b>
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	<b>BREAK</b>
10:45 – 11:15 a.m.	<b>Math/Dakota ELP Field Test</b> J. R. Zengler – Harcourt <b>NAEP Update</b>
11:15 – 12:30 p.m.	<b>Dakota STEP Interpretation, SIMS Net Assessment Tab, Harcourt Standards Based Website</b> Gary Skoglund—SDDOE Gay Pickner—SDDOE Dennis Ortman—Harcourt

## **DAKOTA STEP POST & STANFORD WRITING PRE-TEST WORKSHOPS**

**THE REGISTRATION FORM IS ON THE WEB AT:**

[www.southdakotapd.com](http://www.southdakotapd.com)

**Once you are at the above URL look for Fall Test Workshops**

*Deadline for registration is September 12, 2005*

### **Workshop Sites**

**September 19 – Rapid City (Ramkota)**

**September 20 – Huron (Crossroads)**

**September 21 – Aberdeen (Ramada)**

**September 22 – Sioux Falls (Holiday Inn City Centre)**

**September 23 – Sioux Falls (Holiday Inn City Centre)**

## 2005 WRITING ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

### STANFORD WRITING ASSESSMENT PROGRAM, 3RD EDITION

The 2005-2006 school year will be the eighth year of the Writing Assessment in South Dakota. The testing period will be from October 3-7, 2005. The South Dakota Department of Education and Harcourt Assessment mutually agreed upon these dates. During the upcoming year, there are several important dates to remember to ensure the successful implementation of the writing assessment program. Mark these dates on your calendar.

September 19	Districts should receive all testing materials. This includes the Order for Scoring Services and the Test Coordinator's Kit. <b>Please inventory materials immediately!</b> You will receive materials based on the Spring 2005 enrollment numbers plus a 10% overage.
September 23	Material shortages and requests for additional materials for Grades 5 and 9 must be reported to the Harcourt Customer Support Center 1-800-763-2306  (Requests received after this date may not arrive in time for testing and will be shipped at the district's expense.)
September 19-23	Regional workshops on test administration and coordination will be held.
<b>October 3- 7, 2005</b>	<b>WRITING ASSESSMENT WILL BE ADMINISTERED</b>
October 14, 2005	Document pick up.
October 17, 2005	Last day for scorable documents to be delivered to Harcourt Assessment's Scoring Center
December 12, 2005	Districts receive Stanford Writing results

**August 2005**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE STATE WRITING PROGRAM**

**DEFINITION OF ON-GRADE**

The term “on-grade” is used to refer to those grade levels that are involved in the State Writing Assessment Program, in South Dakota this means grades 5 and 9.

**ALL ACCREDITED SCHOOLS MUST TEST**

From October 3-7, 2005 accredited schools in South Dakota must administer the Stanford Writing Assessment, Third Edition to all students in grades 5 and 9. **If a student is repeating a grade (5 or 9) they must still test.**

**All enrolled students must be accounted for:** All students in grades 5 and 9 must participate in the Stanford Writing Assessment. This includes Limited English Proficient students and students with disabilities. If any student is exempted from participation in the Stanford Writing Assessment, you must complete the student information form of the answer booklet and “bubble” the appropriate exemption code on the student answer booklet. The proper procedure is to fill in demographic data along with the correct code. The Test Coordinator’s Handbook provides complete information on the coding.

## **Fall 2005 Field Test Administrations**

**Districts/schools participating in the fall 2005 field test(s) have agreed to participate in one or both of these assessments with the concurrence of the South Dakota Department of Education.**

***Dakota STEP Mathematics Field Test***

New items are being field tested and evaluated for inclusion in the spring 2006 operational *Dakota STEP Mathematics Problem Solving* and *Mathematics* subtests. The spring 2006 operational forms will assess the revised State Content Standards for Mathematics.

***Dakota English Language Proficiency (Dakota ELP) Field Test***

New items are being field tested and evaluated for inclusion in the spring 2006 administration of the augmented *Dakota English Language Proficiency Assessment (Dakota ELP)*. In the spring of 2006, a supplemental test form will be administered to LEP students in addition to the existing *Stanford English Language Proficiency (SELP) Assessment*. This assessment, the *Dakota English Language Proficiency Assessment (Dakota ELP)* is aligned with both the South Dakota English Language Learning (ELL) standards and well as the State Content (Achievement) Standards. Both the *Dakota STEP* and *Dakota ELP* field tests will be administered according to the following schedule.

## Fall 2005 Field Tests: Critical Dates

<b>Sept. 19–23, 2005</b>	Pretest workshops
<b>Sept. 19, 2005</b>	Scheduled delivery of Field Test materials
<b>Sept. 26–30, 2005</b>	<b><i>Dakota STEP and Dakota ELP</i> Field Test</b>
<b>October 7, 2005</b>	LAST DAY for scorable documents to be picked up by UPS
<b>October 10, 2005</b>	LAST DAY for scorable documents to be delivered to Harcourt Assessment's Scoring Center

### **ASSESSING STUDENTS W/ DISABILITIES ON THE STANFORD WRITING ASSESSMENT**

The *Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004* (IDEIA 2004) requires the development of policies and procedures for the inclusion of students with disabilities in state- and district-wide assessments and, when necessary, the provision of accommodations for such students. Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) must include accommodations that are necessary in order for the child to participate in assessments. A student who is perceived to have a disability based on Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* (Section 504) must also be afforded accommodations if those accommodations are part of the services provided in the student's Section 504 Plan.

For students with disabilities who have an active IEP, the IEP must include a statement of the accommodations the student will need in order to participate in any state or district wide assessment. If a student takes the alternate writing assessment, they will take the STAARS-W.

Decisions about whether a student participates in state and district wide assessments under the prescribed standardized group testing conditions recommended by the test publisher, or participates with accommodations, or takes the alternate assessment must be made on an individual basis, by the student's IEP or Section 504 team. These decisions are not made unilaterally; the team involved in the decision-making process must be the student's IEP or 504 team.

If it is determined that a student with a disability can participate with accommodations, the team making that decision must specifically indicate the type and extent of accommodations to be provided. This information must be documented in the student's

IEP, or addressed in the student's 504 Plan. The parent/guardian of the student must be made aware of the decision during the development of the student's IEP or Section 504 plan.

When making accommodations, a student's IEP or Section 504 team must consider the individual needs of the student in daily instructional settings as well as the additional needs that arise in a secure testing environment. The Test Coordinator's Handbook provides additional information that the student's IEP team could use when considering appropriate accommodations for each academic area being tested. The Test Coordinator's Handbook will also provide the coding that must be used when testing students with disabilities on The Stanford Writing Assessment. Questions on writing may be addressed to Melissa Flor 773-3678.

### **NON-STANDARD ACCOMMODATION STUDENT SCORES**

Any students taking the Writing Assessment under non-standard accommodations will not be rolled up into a schools aggregate average. These students will receive a student report that contains only raw scores. Remember that you must complete an answer document for "ALL" students with disabilities in the tested grades, including those students who are being excluded from the state/district wide assessment.

### **BRAILLE OR LARGE PRINT TESTS WRITING ONLY**

These will not be provided. Schools are authorized to enlarge the prompt and writers checklist or use a Braille Writer as needed, along with oral directions.

### **Alternate Assessment Update**

**The alternate assessment has moved to Phase 2. The name of the new assessment will be Dakota STEP A—not STAARS. Dakota STEP A will not require a fall submission. Information on upcoming training for the Dakota STEP A will be announced by the Special Education Office. Contact Linda Turner 773-3678**

### **BRAILLE FOR DAKOTA STEP PLANNING**

Districts must contact Melissa Flor (Special Education Programs) and notify her if there will be a need for a Braille edition of the Dakota STEP in Grades 3 through 8 and 11 **by October 31, 2005**. 605-773-8195 or [Melissa.flor@state.sd.us](mailto:Melissa.flor@state.sd.us)

### **NON-ACCREDITED ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION PROGRAMS (SDCL 13-27-3)**

Non-accredited alternative sites (Home school) **DO NOT** take the Writing Assessment.

## **NEW AMO TARGETS REFLECTING READING CUT SCORE CHANGES**

### **NCLB Annual Measurable Objectives Effective June 2005**

	K - 8		9 -12	
School Year	Reading	Math	Reading	Math
2002-2003	65%	45%	50%	60%
2003-2004	65%	45%	50%	60%
2004-2005	78%	54%	66%	67%
2005-2006	78%	54%	66%	67%
2006-2007	82%	54%	72%	67%
2007-2008	82%	63%	72%	73%
2008-2009	82%	63%	72%	73%
2009-2010	86%	63%	77%	73%
2010-2011	90%	73%	83%	80%
2011-2012	94%	82%	89%	87%
2012-2013	96%	91%	94%	93%
2013-2014	100%	100%	100%	100%

### **IDENTIFICATION NUMBER**

SDDOE is requesting that all districts fill in the Student Information Management System (SIMS) number for each student who does not have a label. Numbers are nine digits and will be available in your district. **All schools will receive stick-on labels for students recorded in SIMS. These labels will come from Harcourt.**

### **NEW CUT SCORES FOR READING ARE LOCATED AT THIS URL**

<http://doe.sd.gov/octa/assessment/dakSTEP/2005cutscores.asp>



## **WHO TO CALL IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS**

### **SAT 9 WRITING ASSESSMENT AND READING FIELD TEST:**

For grades 5 and 9, questions regarding test materials, instructions, or score report processing may be directed to Harcourt Assessments Program Coordinator for the South Dakota Testing Program by calling 1-800-800-8305 (Ext. 5652).

### **REGIONAL TEST CONSULTANT:**

Mr. Dennis Ortman is the Measurement Consultant for Harcourt Assessment. Dennis can be contacted in Overland Park, KS by calling 913-681-1613.

### **STATE TESTING PROGRAM (DAKOTA STEP, WRITING AND READING):**

Questions regarding the Dakota STEP and the Writing Assessment (Grades 5 and 9) should be directed to Gary Skoglund, Office of Curriculum, Technology and Assessment, 605-773-5229 or [gary.skoglund@state.sd.us](mailto:gary.skoglund@state.sd.us).

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

Dakota STEP-A Linda Turner 773-3678 [linda.turner@state.sd.us](mailto:linda.turner@state.sd.us). Dakota STEP, Students with Disabilities, Accommodations, Large Print and Braille Melissa Flor 773-3678 [melissa.flor@state.sd.us](mailto:melissa.flor@state.sd.us)

### **LEP EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

605-773-6400

**GRADE 3 SAT 10 AB GROUP REPORT**  
**Spring 2005**

Subtests and Totals	Number Tested	Mean Number Correct	Mean Scaled Score	National Individual PR – S	Mean National NCE
Total Reading	9892	52.3	635	63-6	57.3
Word Study Skills	9925	14.6	641	58-5	54.5
Reading Vocabulary	9911	15.1	627	60-6	55.6
Reading Comprehension	9943	22.6	641	67-6	59.3
Total Mathematics	9948	37.5	631	70-6	61.2
Mathematics Problem Solving	9953	22.9	632	65-6	58.4
Mathematics Procedures	9949	14.6	633	72-6	62.2
Language	9946	17.8	611	58-5	54.5
Prewriting	9946	6.2	612	63-6	56.9
Composing	9946	4.8	608	55-5	52.9
Editing	9946	6.8	617	57-5	53.6
Science	9957	21.5	635	65-6	58.1
Social Science	9955	21.1	631	67-6	59.6
Partial Battery	9884	107.7	NA	64-6	57.5
Total Battery	9882	150.4	NA	65-6	57.9

**GRADE 4 SAT 10 AB GROUP REPORT**  
**Spring 2005**

Subtests and Totals	Number Tested	Mean Number Correct	Mean Scaled Score	National Individual PR – S	Mean National NCE
Total Reading	10002	51.1	648	66-6	58.6
Word Study Skills	10005	14.9	653	64-6	57.7
Reading Vocabulary	10011	15.5	648	62-6	56.4
Reading Comprehension	10012	20.7	648	65-6	58.2
Total Mathematics	10014	35.9	645	72-6	62.1
Mathematics Problem Solving	10019	20.8	646	71-6	61.9
Mathematics Procedures	10016	15.1	648	71-6	61.8
Language	10013	18.2	621	52-5	51.2
Prewriting	10013	5.4	624	50-5	50.1
Composing	10013	6.5	620	50-5	50.2
Editing	10013	6.3	622	52-5	51.1
Science	9995	22.5	646	71-6	61.6
Social Science	10024	21.4	640	70-6	61.1
Partial Battery	9989	105.2	NA	65-6	57.9
Total Battery	9954	149.1	NA	66-6	58.8

**GRADE 5 SAT 10 AB GROUP REPORT**  
**Spring 2005**

Subtests and Totals	Number Tested	Mean Number Correct	Mean Scaled Score	National Individual PR – S	Mean National NCE
Total Reading	10282	34.5	654	60-6	55.2
Reading Vocabulary	10283	15.0	658	57-5	53.9
Reading Comprehension	10283	19.5	654	61-6	55.9
Total Mathematics	10278	33.9	664	71-6	61.6
Mathematics Problem Solving	10282	20.4	661	70-6	61.0
Mathematics Procedures	10278	13.5	669	70-6	61.0
Language	10277	18.4	634	62-6	56.5
Prewriting	10277	5.3	637	55-5	52.6
Composing	10277	5.7	629	57-5	53.7
Editing	10277	7.4	640	66-6	58.6
Science	10287	19.2	654	69-6	60.7
Social Science	10284	21.5	656	73-6	63.1
Partial Battery	10264	86.9	NA	64-6	57.7
Total Battery	10262	127.6	NA	66-6	58.9

**GRADE 6 SAT 10 AB GROUP REPORT**  
**Spring 2005**

Subtests and Totals	Number Tested	Mean Number Correct	Mean Scaled Score	National Individual PR – S	Mean National NCE
Total Reading	10460	36.5	670	59-5	54.8
Reading Vocabulary	10461	15.2	677	57-5	53.6
Reading Comprehension	10466	21.3	668	60-6	55.5
Total Mathematics	10428	32.5	677	68-6	59.8
Mathematics Problem Solving	10432	19.7	674	66-6	59.0
Mathematics Procedures	10432	12.8	681	66-6	58.9
Language	10468	18.7	641	63-6	57.0
Prewriting	10468	5.7	646	60-6	55.4
Composing	10468	5.9	640	60-6	55.3
Editing	10468	7.1	641	61-6	56.0
Science	10456	20.4	663	65-6	58.1
Social Science	10458	19.7	662	67-6	59.1
Partial Battery	10416	87.7	NA	63-6	56.8
Total Battery	10402	127.8	NA	64-6	57.4

**GRADE 7 SAT 10 AB GROUP REPORT**  
**Spring 2005**

Subtests and Totals	Number Tested	Mean Number Correct	Mean Scaled Score	National Individual PR – S	Mean National NCE
Total Reading	10807	34.9	679	60-6	55.4
Reading Vocabulary	10811	14.4	688	56-5	53.0
Reading Comprehension	10816	20.5	677	62-6	56.4
Total Mathematics	10804	29.5	689	69-6	60.6
Mathematics Problem Solving	10812	17.9	691	71-6	61.7
Mathematics Procedures	10807	11.6	687	62-6	56.3
Language	10817	18.4	654	66-6	59.0
Prewriting	10817	4.8	656	58-5	54.2
Composing	10817	6.9	658	69-6	60.2
Editing	10817	6.7	651	66-6	58.6
Science	10808	19.1	671	64-6	57.4
Social Science	10805	17.6	669	64-6	57.4
Partial Battery	10789	82.8	NA	63-6	57.3
Total Battery	10776	119.6	NA	64-6	57.4

**GRADE 8 SAT 10 AB GROUP REPORT**  
**Spring 2005**

Subtests and Totals	Number Tested	Mean Number Correct	Mean Scaled Score	National Individual PR – S	Mean National NCE
Total Reading	10613	35.9	693	64-6	57.4
Reading Vocabulary	10616	14.8	703	59-5	55.1
Reading Comprehension	10617	21.1	689	65-6	58.4
Total Mathematics	10604	29.1	701	70-6	60.8
Mathematics Problem Solving	10609	18.0	703	71-6	62.0
Mathematics Procedures	10610	11.1	698	64-6	57.6
Language	10612	20.0	663	60-6	55.6
Prewriting	10612	6.2	671	60-6	55.4
Composing	10612	7.1	667	57-5	53.9
Editing	10612	6.7	654	57-5	53.9
Science	10606	17.9	684	68-6	60.0
Social Science	10611	16.6	680	64-6	57.6
Partial Battery	10592	85.0	NA	64-6	57.8
Total Battery	10575	119.6	NA	65-6	58.1

**GRADE 11 SAT 10 AB GROUP REPORT**  
**Spring 2005**

Subtests and Totals	Number Tested	Mean Number Correct	Mean Scaled Score	National Individual PR – S	Mean National NCE
Total Reading	9323	38.6	736	75-6	64.5
Reading Vocabulary	9324	16.2	742	62-6	56.5
Reading Comprehension	9329	22.3	733	79-7	67.1
Total Mathematics	9325	16.1	730	74-6	63.9
Language	9319	20.3	675	57-5	54.0
Prewriting	9319	6.2	694	59-5	54.8
Composing	9319	7.0	666	49-5	49.7
Editing	9319	7.0	673	59-5	54.7
Science	9321	16.9	713	73-6	62.7
Social Science	9313	13.5	699	67-6	59.6
Partial Battery	9303	75.0	NA	69-6	60.4
Total Battery	9294	105.4	NA	69-6	60.7